

REMARKS

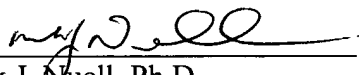
This Amendment corrects the title of the invention to refer to inhibition of degradation of BNP, rather than inhibition of the brain natriuretic peptides themselves.

If there are any questions concerning the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Reg. No. 28,781) at (703) 205-8008.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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